

Weekly Status & Information Report: April 18 - April 22, 2011

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of April 25, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, April 25, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium (closed session at 7 p.m.)
- Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, Tuesday, April 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, Tuesday, April 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
- Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee meeting, Tuesday, April 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room

All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact jessiec@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

2. Budget Public Hearings Scheduled: On Monday, April 25, the City Council will hold two public hearings on the FY 2012 Budget. The public hearings will begin at 7:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matters may be heard. 1) Public Hearing on the FY 2012 Budget; 2) Public Hearing on the FY 2012 Constant Yield Tax Rate. Members of the public are invited to attend the hearings and sign up to speak or send comments to the City Clerk: clerk@takomagov.org . *(City Clerk)*

3. Free Classes - Credit and Financial Management and First Time Home Buying: Don't delay....sign up now for Credit Management (April 27 and May 11) and Financial Management classes (May 25, June 8 and June 22), all sponsored by the City of Takoma Park to be held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park from 7 to 9:15 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a homeowner for the first time, don't miss out on our First Time Homebuyer's class, to be held on Saturday, May 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration for any of the classes is required by calling 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

4. Screening of "Bag It" - Thursday, April 28: Free screening of the award winning environmental documentary - Bag It - on Thursday, April 28th at 7 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Bag It follows "everyman" Jeb Berrier as he tries to make sense of our dependence on plastic bags. Although his quest starts out small, Jeb soon learns that the problem extends past landfills to oceans, rivers and ultimately human health. A short discussion will follow the screening of the film. Advance reservations are encouraged www.bagittakomapark.eventbrite.com For more information see <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=196531520382622> . *(Housing and Community Development)*

5. Mahbood and the Mystic Love Band Concert - Saturday, April 30: Gorgeous harmonies, stunning musicianship, and lots of audience participation. Not to be missed! The April 30th concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 with proceeds to benefit the 9/11 Unity Walk, a non-profit that supports education, compassion, and service in response to religious intolerance across the globe. For more information contact Mahbood at <http://mahbood.com> or <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=167977333255367> . *(Housing and Community Development)*

6. "We are Takoma" Azalea City Concert - Sunday, May 1: Celebrate Takoma's own Azalea City Recording with a free concert on Sunday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Eight diverse acts ranging from folk to country and from roots-rock to Afro-beat will be featured. For more information, <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=160087410717798> . *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. Safe Routes to School Takoma Park 5K Challenge Update - May 1 (City-wide): The Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge received a big boost from Whole Foods 5% day, receiving \$5,516.70, lots of exposure, and opportunities to speak with parents, kids, and runners. There is still time to sign up for the 5 kilometer race, walk or the Fun Run online at www.TKPK5K.com prior to the May 1 event! *(Housing and Community Development)*

8. Spring is for Growing - May 7 (City wide): Are you ready to try your hand at growing vegetables but don't know how? Tired of buying herbs only to throw out most of it later? If you've missed the first gardening class, here's another learning opportunity. Join us on May 7, 10 a.m. to 12 noon to learn from Master Gardener Donald Snyder on how to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers in outdoor containers. The class will be held at the Community Center's Rose Room (7500 Maple Avenue). For more

information or to RSVP contact Carman Lam at 301-891-7219, CarmanL@takomagov.org. (*Housing and Community Development*)

9. CR Zone ZTA Montgomery County Council Public Hearings Scheduled - May 17 (Ward 5 and 6): The public hearing on the Commercial/Residential Zone Zoning Text Amendment has been scheduled for May 17 at 7:30. This zoning text amendment as currently drafted addresses the main concerns expressed by the City Council. The public may sign up to testify online or by calling 240-777-7803. (*Housing and Community Development*)

10. Takoma/Langley Crossroads Sector Plan Montgomery County Council Public Hearing Scheduled for May 24 (Ward 6): The Montgomery County Council rescheduled the Takoma/Langley Sector Plan hearing to May 24 at 7:30 p.m. A City Council resolution regarding the Sector Plan has been tentatively scheduled for May 9. Sign up to testify regarding the draft Sector Plan at the County Council hearing online or by calling 240-777-7803. See: <http://www.thenewwave.com/development/visions-and-plans/tlc-sector-plan-county-council-review>. (*Housing and Community Development*)

11. Takoma/Langley Sector Plan Urban Design Guideline Outreach Meetings Wrapped Up (Ward 6): At the last scheduled meeting, City residents modeled out potential heights and setbacks using a scaled site plan and wooden blocks for the property that used to contain the Safeway. There was a high level of confidence in what had been written to date. Next steps include communicating the community's interests to the Planning Board and developing future streetscape design. (*Housing and Community Development*)

12. French Circle Time: Come tomorrow, Saturday April 23, at 10:30 a.m. to sing songs and rhymes in French. Our French Circle Time -- the only one in the area! -- is led by Madame Marie. It's perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups. No registration required. (*Library*)

13. Dia! Mark your calendars for next Saturday, April 30, at 10:30 a.m. when we'll have our 4th annual celebration of Dia!, a national effort to highlight the importance of literacy for all children. Mr. Gabe, the popular local children's performer, will lead participants in singing -- and dancing too! -- songs in French, Spanish, German, Russian and English. Our program will conclude with a craft. Registration is encouraged to ensure we have enough craft supplies for all. To register, go to www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring our program. (*Library*)

14. Bleak House: All are invited to the continuing discussion of "Bleak House" by Charles Dickens on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. The discussion is sponsored by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library and will take place in the Community Center. (*Library*)

15. Favorite Poem: The Favorite Poem Evening, sponsored jointly by the Takoma Park Maryland Library and the Friends of the Library, will take place on Thursday, May 5 at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to participate by reading a favorite poem, please contact Ellen Robbins at ellenr@takomagov.org. The deadline for submission is May 2. All ages are welcome. Please attend and bring your friends and neighbors! Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Library. (*Library*)

16. What About the Eggs?? Due to inclement weather and poor field conditions, the Takoma Park Recreation Department's Annual Egg Hunt will be moved to Monday, April 25 at 11 a.m. sharp, Lee Jordan Field, adjacent to the Takoma Park Middle School. This is a free event, no registration is required. Event will be divided into four age groups 2 and under, 3-4, 5-6 and 7 and older. Don't forget to bring basket. If it rains please call the inclement weather line 301-891-7101 x5605 for updates. (*Recreation*)

17. Adult Softball League - Were looking for a few more players! The Takoma Park Recreation Department is trying to fill the last and final team for the 2011 Adult Softball League. The league will begin on Sunday, May 1. Games will be played at Lee Jordan Field and Nolte #2 on Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Registration is open to all individuals 16+ and the fee is \$55 per player; \$65 for nonresidents. To register online go to www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation. For additional details contact

Lew McAllister 301-891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org . *(Recreation)*

18. Y.E.S. League - Summer Basketball: Registration is now open for the 2011 "Youth Exposed to Success" Summer Basketball League. Y.E.S. league is open to all girls and boys grades 5 - 12. This ultimate summer league will guarantee teams eight games and every player will receive a Y.E.S. League T-shirt. Games will begin the week of June 20 and will be played at Piney Branch Elementary from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. To register online go to www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation. For additional details contact Lew McAllister 301-891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org . *(Recreation)*

19. "The Great Outdoors:" Thirty-one kids in grades K-6 explored the Great Outdoors this week in Takoma Park Recreation's Spring Break Camp, April 18 - 22. Activities included a nature scavenger hunt at Sligo Creek, crafts, egg hunt, trips to Rollingcrest Pool and Chesapeake Children's Museum, where they learned about the critters of the Chesapeake Bay and what can be done to protect them. During the week, the participants learned about becoming a Junior Ranger for Sligo Creek by completing tasks, pledging to pick-up trash, not to feed wildlife, recycle, and to be a good example to others. All participants were presented with their very own Junior Ranger Card to remind them of the pledge to keep Sligo Creek clean. *(Recreation)*

20. Teen Spring Break Week: A total of 22 teens participated in the Recreation Department's Community Service Spring Break Camp! The list of weekly activities included:
Monday - Gardening at the Meadowside Nature Center in Rockville followed by fun at Dave and Busters
Tuesday - Community service at the Franklin Apartments and yard work for three Takoma Park seniors. This activity was followed by roller skating at the Laurel Roller Rink.
Wednesday - Community service for Takoma Park seniors continued, followed by bowling.
Thursday - Community service at Wider Circle in Silver Spring and introduction to Takoma Park Police Officer Magnaye. Officer Magnaye spoke to participants about the duties of an officer and safety measures teens can take in their daily lives.
Friday - Trip to Kings Dominion. *(Recreation)*

21. Silver Foxes Newsletter Online: Check it out! The May 2011 edition of the Silver Foxes Newsletter is online. Go to the Takoma Park Recreation Department website www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation and click on the "seniors" icon, or go directly to www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/seniors.html to view the latest senior news. *(Recreation)*

22. Seniors Learn Computer Skills: Spring Session I of the Senior's Computer Class began this week in the computer lab. Jane Hawkanson, volunteer instructor, introduced seniors to the computer and basic skills. The session is full and will run for six weeks. The next session will begin on June 1. For more information, contact Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program, at 301-891-7280. *(Recreation)*

23. Meeting with Takoma Overlook Property Manager: On Wednesday, April 20th, John Webster had the opportunity to meet with Lise Carver who is the Property Manager of the Takoma Overlook Condominiums. They were able to discuss collaborative options for the future and supporting youth programs at the Takoma Park Recreation Center on New Hampshire Avenue. *(Recreation)*

24. Officers in Meetings: On April 20, 2011 Chief Ricucci attended the Quarterly Maryland Chiefs Association meeting at Stevenson University in Owings Mill, Maryland. On the same day, Captain Coursey attended a pilot training course put on by FEMA at the D.C. Homeland Security and Emergency Management Facility. *(Police)*

25. Lions Club Awards Dinner: On April 19, 2001 Chief Ricucci attended the Annual Lions Club Awards Dinner where Cpl. Michelle Holmes was honored as the Takoma Park Officer of the Year. *(Police)*

26. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (April 15-24, 2011) may be viewed online at: http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/04/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_14.html . *(Police)*

27. Officers in Training: During the week, Cpl. Thomas Black attended defensive tactics instructor

training in Rockville, Maryland. *(Police)*

28. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 122 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, five vehicle impounds, and two Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrest from traffic.

During April 16-21, 2011, the following details were completed:

April 16, 2011

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Carroll Avenue (red light enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings
- 7700 block of Maple Avenue - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings
- Piney Branch Road & Philadelphia Avenue (cross double yellow lines) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings
- Sligo Creek Parkway & New Hampshire Avenue (red light enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation
- New Hampshire Avenue & Holton Lane (no left / no u-turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation and two warnings

April 17, 2011

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations

April 18, 2011

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings

April 19, 2011

- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations for speed and one warning
- 7500 block of Carroll Avenue (speeding) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations

April 20, 2011

- Lincoln Avenue & Elm Avenue (fail to pass to right of rotary island) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings
- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a three-hour detail and issued ten State citations for speed and six other State citations
- Takoma/Langley Crossroads area (tag reader/suspensions) - conducted a detail at various times and issued 18 State citations
- Lincoln Avenue & Elm Avenue (fail to pass to right of rotary island) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.

April 21, 2011

- 7500 Maple Ave (wrong way on one-way street) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings
- (Police)*